

## News for Immediate Release August 5, 2004

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Pumping on Schedule at Jones Tract, Boating Restrictions to be Lifted

SACRAMENTO – Department of Water Resources' officials report that pumps removing floodwater from Jones Tract have lowered the lake covering 12,000 acres of farmland by 34 inches.

It's estimated that a contractual obligation to lower the floodwaters three feet by August 7 will be met by tomorrow morning, one-day ahead of schedule.

Ford Construction Company, Inc., of Lodi, has a \$3,853,000 contract to completely dewater the island by mid-October. The special pumps being used are owned by Moving Water Industries (MWI) of Deerfield Beach, Florida, which has been in charge of setting up and adjusting the equipment.

Eight 42-inch pumps and two 30-inch pumps have been in operation around the clock, removing the approximately 150,000 acre feet of water that flowed onto the island when part of the Middle River levee collapsed on June 3.

Meanwhile, recreational boating restrictions on Middle River near the levee breach site will be lifted by this weekend.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Back to Top of Page

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